

# **Submission for the 5<sup>th</sup> in-session dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment by Ethiopia on behalf of the Least Developed Countries Group**

## **Education, Training, Awareness Raising, Public Participation, Access to Information, International Cooperation**

LDC's welcome the opportunity to provide its views on the organization of the 4<sup>th</sup> in-session Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment held in May 2016 and regarding the agenda of the upcoming 5<sup>th</sup> in-session Dialogue on Action for Climate Empowerment to be organized in May 2017 in Bonn.

LDC's believe that all six elements of Article 6 of the UNFCCC are equally essential to support ambitious and effective climate action by all Parties. Parties have recognized the importance of ensuring that the Doha Work Programme enhances the implementation of all elements of Article 6: climate education, training, awareness raising, and public access to information, public participation and, as a crosscutting theme, international cooperation.

LDC's appreciate the organization of the 4<sup>th</sup> in-session Dialogue held in Bonn last May and encourage the Secretariat to build on the success of such a participatory format with such inspiring discussions. At this workshop participants shared good practices, lessons learned and experiences in implementing the Doha Work Programme. Such workshops should be organized in a more frequent manner aiming at strengthening the existing skills and capacities of the national focal points.

The Doha Work Programme has a key role to play to promote such an integrated implementation of the UNFCCC by identifying relevant opportunities and exploring good practices, lessons learned and remaining challenges. The second phase of its implementation should focus more closely on this aspect in order to provide the greatest added value to the implementation of the Convention. Such integration should include a greater dissemination by the UNFCCC Secretariat of good practices relevant to the various mechanisms and policy areas addressed under the Convention.

The second phase of the Work Programme should ensure that the work programme contributes to supporting the implementation of all six thematic areas, further identifying good practices, challenges and knowledge of how to respond to the challenges which are specific to each thematic area.

The capacity of the work programme to act as a platform for international cooperation

and to enhance implementation would be enhanced if the activities undertaken during its second phase would better address the needs and opportunities associated with specific groups of actors. Consequently, LDC Group suggests the organisation of three main types of events to be held during the period 2017-2020 with specific objectives identified for each of these events.

According to the biennial structure of the Doha Work Programme, the 5<sup>th</sup> Dialogue will focus on three of the elements highlighted in article 6: climate change education, training and international cooperation on these matters.

As the most relevant decision makers and stakeholders could attend and contribute to these discussions, LDC believe that these in-session dialogues could really contribute to the implementation of Article 6 in fostering the mainstreaming of all its elements in the implementation of policies and projects implemented under the convention.

The transformational and empowering functions of the Doha Work Programme can be fully implemented only if it involves the active participation of people directly affected by climate change and by the impacts of response measures, including the most vulnerable and the poor. The importance of this specific focus must be recognised as a third guiding principle for the second phase of the work programme.

LDC's would encourage the Secretariat to organize the 5th Dialogue in the same format as last year, while inviting representatives from existing financial mechanisms such as the GEF and the GCF and others operating under the UNFCCC which should provide resources to further implement article 6 in developing countries and should evaluate how their procedures and modalities could contribute to the enhanced mobilization of funds for these activities. Such a participation could shed light on enigmatic questions related to appropriate resources which should be allocated to the implementation of article 6 activities for effective implementation of the convention.